

REMARKS

The Office Action and the cited and applied references have been carefully reviewed. No claim is allowed. The non-elected claims are cancelled without prejudice to the filing of a divisional application thereon. Claims 6, 8, 9 and 11-14 presently appear in this application and define patentable subject matter warranting their allowance. Reconsideration and allowance are hereby respectfully solicited.

The specification has been objected to. Appropriate correction is made to paragraphs [0001] and [0061], thereby obviating this part of the objection.

Regarding the objection to the amendment to the drawings (Fig. 2), the molecular weight of pranlukast is 490.52. Paragraph [0085] refers to Figure 2 and discloses a dosage of 450 mg/kg body weight which is equivalent to slightly less than 0.1 mmol/kg. Clearly, the scale of mol/kg for pranlukast in original Fig. 2 is three orders of magnitude too high and those of skill in the art would certainly recognize and understand that pranlukast should be in terms of mmol/kg and not mol/kg. Accordingly, the amendment to Figure 2 is not believed to introduce any prohibited new matter.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection are therefore respectfully requested.

Claims 1-2, 5, 8-9, 11-14 and 21 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kobayashi et al. in view of Zhang et al. This rejection is obviated by the cancellation of the

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rejected claims without prejudice and by changing the dependencies of claims 8, 9 and 11-14.

Claim 21 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Zhang et al. This rejection is obviated by the cancellation of claim 21 without prejudice.

Claim 6 has been objected to as being dependent from a rejected base claim. This objection is obviated by rewriting claim 6 in independent form to include all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 8, 9 and 11-14 are amended to change their claim dependency to newly independent claim 6.

In view of the above, claims 6, 8, 9 and 11-14 comply with 35 U.S.C. §112 and define patentable subject matter warranting their allowance. Favorable consideration and early allowance are earnestly urged.

Respectfully submitted,

BROWDY AND NEIMARK, P.L.L.C.
Attorneys for Applicant(s)

By /ACY/
Allen C. Yun
Registration No. 37,971

ACY:pp
Telephone No.: (202) 628-5197
Facsimile No.: (202) 737-3528
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